2:Musil S-4,5 (no date)1928 MD4 Rwala MD4

employed with them. *Ana daḫil hal-'amûd mâ 'anni sdûd bnûr allâh wa-bḥaḳḳ allâh bhal-menzel w-ana dâḫel 'alejk balli ḫafijen 'alejje w-bajjenen 'alejk w-ana dâḫel 'ala ḥzâmak w-mâ ḳafâk w-židdâmak w-al-ḥalâl as-sâreḥ w-al-walad al-fâleḥ.*" Saṭṭâm was sitting by the wall dividing the men's compartment from the women's; behind him — hence behind the wall — were his wife and his children; before him — hence in front of the tent — stood his mare and his she-camels about to start for pasture under the care of a young relative of his. 695

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After hearing the witnesses or administering the oath the judge issues his decision or verdict, *ma'rûẓ*. If one of the parties is not satisfied he says to the judge: 695

"Here, take the wages for thy tongue and let me depart to another judge; *hâk ḥaḳḳ lisânak w-asnedni 'ala-l-'ârefat aṭ-ṭâni.*"

"I will let thee go to So-and-So." Both parties now go to the judge mentioned and relate what has happened thus far. But, whatever the verdict of the second judge may be, the party dissatisfied with the first cannot reject it, for then the judge would say:

"Thou art an old liar. Sit still and accept my judgment. This dispute is decided irrevocably. *Ent čeḏûb eḳ'ed w-eḳbel ma'rûẓi has-sâlfa mabtûra.*" An appeal is out of the question, but sometimes the judge says to the dissatisfied party:

"Go wherever thou wilt; find a case like thine and prove to me by witnesses how it was decided." The dissatisfied man then mounts his camel and rides from one judge to another and from chief to chief inquiring for a case similar to his and for the court's finding in it. If he happens to find such a case, *weradha*, and proves by witnesses that it had been decided long before and is therefore an old dispute, *sâlfaten mâzje or ma'rûẓen mâẓi*, then the judge adapts his verdict to the old one. But if the judgment discovered is not at least five years old, its validity is not yet recognized — as it is still a so-called blind case, *has-sâlfa hâḏi 'amja'*. The opposing side at once declares: "This case must not be used against me, *mâ tfattaḥ 'alejje*," and the finding of the second judge remains in force.